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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Organisation des Nations
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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CONFERENCE

Forty-third Session

Rome, 1-7 July 2023

Third Report of the General Committee

A. Election of Council Members

1. The General Committee draws the attention of the Conference to the following paragraphs of Rule XXII of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO):

"3. In selecting Members of the Council, the Conference shall give due consideration to the desirability of:

- a) including in its membership a balanced geographical representation of nations interested in the production, distribution and consumption of food and agricultural products;
- b) ensuring the participation in the work of the Council of such Member Nations as contribute in a large measure towards the success of the Organization;
- c) giving to the greatest possible number of Member Nations an opportunity, by rotation of membership, to serve on the Council.

4. Member Nations shall be eligible for re-election.

5. No Member Nation shall be eligible for election to the Council if it is in arrears in payment of its financial contributions to the Organization in an amount equal to or exceeding the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years."

2. The Conference set **9.00 hours on Monday 3 July 2023** the deadline for submission of nominations for election to the Council and agreed that the election be held on **Thursday 6 July 2023**.

3. The General Committee has examined the nominations received by the deadline and found the following nominations to be in order:

REGION	PERIOD	CANDIDATES
AFRICA	(a) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2024 (1 SEAT) *	1. Equatorial Guinea
	(b) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2026 (4 SEATS)	1. Cameroon 2. Morocco 3. Lesotho 4. Uganda

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

	(c) 1 July 2024 – end of 45th Conference (3 SEATS)	1. Burundi 2. Congo 3. Tanzania
ASIA	(a) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2026 (3 SEATS)	1. India 2. Pakistan 3. Thailand/Malaysia
	(b) 1 July 2024 – end of 45th Conference (6 SEATS)	1. Bangladesh 2. China 3. Indonesia 4. Japan 5. Philippines 6. Republic of Korea
EUROPE	(a) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2026 (4 SEATS)	1. Georgia/Switzerland 2. Italy 3. Norway 4. Spain/United Kingdom
	(b) 1 July 2024 – end of 45th Conference (3 SEATS)	1. Croatia 2. Iceland 3. Netherlands 4. Russian Federation
	(c) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2024 (1 SEAT)	1. Croatia
	d) end of 43rd Conference – end of 44th Conference (1 SEAT)	1. Lithuania
	(e) 1 July 2024 – end of the 44th Conference (2 SEATS)	1. France 2. Ukraine
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	(a) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2026 (1 SEAT)	1. Panama
	(b) 1 July 2024 - end of 45th Conference (3 SEATS)	1. Chile 2. Ecuador/Peru 3. Guatemala
NEAR EAST	(a) end of 43rd Conference – end of 44th Conference (1 SEAT)	1. Sudan
	(b) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2026 (3 SEATS)	1. Afghanistan 2. Egypt 3. Saudi Arabia
	(c) 1 July 2024 – end of 45th Conference (1 SEATS)	1. Kuwait
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC	(a) end of 43rd Conference – 30 June 2026 (1 SEAT)	1. Australia

4. For all periods, the number of candidates is the same as the number of seats to be filled for the regions of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, and Southwest Pacific. The Committee recommends that, in accordance with Rule XII.10 (a) of the GRO, the Conference elect by clear general consent the candidates nominated for the specified periods for such regions.

5. The General Committee noted the situation in the Africa and Near East Regions, as follows:
- a. Since Equatorial Guinea is deemed to have resigned in accordance with Rule XXII.7 GRO, the vacated seat should be filled for the period from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference

to the 30 June 2024 (the remainder of the term of office), as provided by Rule XXII, paragraphs 6 and 9 of the GRO.

- b. Since Iraq is deemed to have resigned in accordance with Rule XXII.7 GRO, the vacated seat should be filled for the period from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference to the end of the 44th Session of the Conference (the remainder of the term of office), as provided by Rule XXII, paragraphs 6 and 9 of the GRO.

6. The General Committee noted in the Europe Region that for the term of office 1 July 2024 until the end of the 45th Session of the Conference there are four candidates for three vacancies, and, unless one candidate withdraws, a secret ballot will be held to determine which countries are to be elected.

7. The General Committee was informed of the situation in the Europe Region, as follows: Georgia and Switzerland applied jointly for one seat with the term of office for Georgia being from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference until the end of the 44th Session of the Conference and the term of office for Switzerland being from end of the 44th Session of the Conference until 30 June 2026.

8. The General Committee was informed of the situation in the Europe Region, as follows: Spain and the United Kingdom applied jointly for one seat with the term of office for Spain being from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference until the end of the 44th Session of the Conference and the term of office for the United Kingdom being from the end of the 44th Session of the Conference until 30 June 2026.

9. The General Committee noted the situation in the Europe Region, as follows: in 2021, Bosnia and Herzegovina was elected to the Council for the period from the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference to 30 June 2024. Bosnia and Herzegovina informed it would step down from the Council effective at the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference. Croatia has submitted a nomination for the remainder of that term of office (which is now from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference to the 30 June 2024), in accordance with Rule XXII.6 and 9 of the GRO. The Committee recommends that, in accordance with Rule XII.10 (a) of the GRO, the Conference elect by clear general consent the candidate nominated for the specified period for such region.

10. The General Committee further noted the situation in the Europe Region as follows: in 2021, Germany, Israel and Slovenia were elected to the Council for the period from 1 July 2022 until the end of the 44th Session of the Conference. Israel informed it would step down from the Council effective at the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference. Lithuania has submitted a nomination for the remainder of that term of office (which is now from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference until the end of the 44th Session of the Conference). Germany and Slovenia informed they would step down from the Council effective 30 June 2024. France and Ukraine have submitted nominations for the remainder of that term of office (which is now 1 July 2024 until the end of the 44th Session of the Conference). The Committee recommends that, in accordance with Rule XII.10 (a) of the GRO, the Conference elect by clear general consent the candidates nominated for the specified periods for such region.

11. The General Committee was also informed of the situation in the Asia Region, as follows: Thailand and Malaysia applied jointly for one seat with the term of office of Thailand being from the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference until 31 December 2024 and the term of office of Malaysia being from 1 January 2025 until 30 June 2026.

12. The General Committee was also informed of the situation in the Latin America and Caribbean Region, as follows: Ecuador and Peru applied jointly for one seat with the term of office of Ecuador being from 1 July 2024 until 31 December 2025 and the term of office of Peru being from 1 January 2026 until the end of the 45th Session of the Conference (2027).

13. The Committee submits to the Conference in Appendix A of this report a list of FAO Member Nations by Region for Council election purposes.

B. Payment by the European Union to cover Administrative and Other Expenses Arising out of its Membership in the Organization

14. Article XVIII, paragraph 6 of the Constitution provides that:

A Member Organization shall not be required to contribute to the budget as specified in paragraph 2 of this Article, but shall pay to the Organization a sum to be determined by the Conference to cover administrative and other expenses arising out of its membership in the Organization (...).

15. At its 27th Session in 1993 the Conference requested the Finance Committee to examine the methodology for the calculation of the lump sum paid by the European Union. At its 78th Session in April 1994 the Finance Committee recommended a methodology on the basis of which the Conference set the payment to be made by the European Union at various sessions.

16. The methodology was re-examined by the Finance Committee at its 108th Session (September 2004) and 109th Session (May 2005). The Committee examined a proposal for a revised methodology whereby the biennial adjustment to the European Union's contribution would reflect the official cost of living increases in the Euro area or in the host country. Under the revised methodology, the adjustment formula would be more in line with the system of split assessment and would not have a material impact on the biennial adjustment to the contribution of the European Union to the Organization. The Committee agreed with the proposed revision of the methodology whereby the higher rate of the official cost of living increase in the Euro area or in the host country would be used to adjust the European Union's contribution for any given biennium.

17. Applying the new methodology, the 42nd Session of the Conference in 2021 set the lump sum payment due by the European Union at EUR 587 666 for the 2022-23 biennium.

18. In accordance with the above, the methodology to be used for adjusting the lump sum is based on the higher rate of the official cost of living increase in the Euro area or in the host country. Using the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) figures, the consumer price inflation for the Euro Area for 2022 was 8.4 percent and for 2023 is forecast to be 6.0 percent which gives an average of 7.20 percent. The EIU figures for harmonized consumer price index for Italy are, for 2022, 8.7 percent and for 2023, forecast at 6.8 percent, which gives an average of 7.75 percent. Therefore, the inflation figure which should be used in the calculation is 7.75 percent, being the higher of the two. Applying this rate to the previous contribution of EUR 587 666 gives the new figure of EUR 633 210.

19. Therefore, it is recommended to the Conference that it set the lump sum payment due by the European Union to cover administrative and other expenditures arising out of its membership in the Organization at EUR 633 210 for the 2024-25 biennium.

20. As in previous biennia, it is proposed that the sum due by the European Union be paid into a trust or special fund established by the Director-General under Financial Regulation 6.7.

C. Appointment of the Director-General

21. The General Committee noted the decision of the 141st Session of the Council on the conditions for the appointment of the Director-General¹ and recommends that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution .../2023

Appointment of the Director-General

THE CONFERENCE,

Acting in accordance with Article VII of the Constitution,

¹ CL 141 REP para. 36 and 37; CL 141/INF/9

Having proceeded to a secret ballot as laid down in Rules XII and XXXVII of the General Rules of the Organization,

- 1) **Declares** that Dr QU Dongyu is appointed to the office of Director-General for a period of four years from 1 August 2023, the term of office expiring on 31 July 2027; and

Having considered the recommendation regarding the conditions of appointment of the Director-General submitted by the General Committee in accordance with Rules X, paragraph 2(j) and XXXVII, paragraph 4 of the General Rules of the Organization,

Resolves that:

- a) the Director-General shall receive a gross annual salary of USD 265,910 corresponding to a net annual salary of USD 199,637 at the dependency rate, or USD 177,529 at the single rate, and an annual post adjustment corresponding to USD 1,996.37 for each multiplier point at the dependency rate, or USD 1,775.29 at the single rate, payable in accordance with the provisions of the Organization governing the salary of staff members;
 - b) the Director-General shall receive a representation allowance of USD 50,000 net per annum;
 - c) the Organization will directly rent appropriate housing accommodation to be assigned as the official residence of the Director-General and pay related expenses, in lieu of rental subsidy;
 - d) the Director-General shall be entitled to all other allowances and benefits accruing to staff members of the Organization in the Professional and Higher Categories;
- 2) **Further resolves** that the Director-General shall be a participant in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund; and
 - 3) **Further resolves** that the terms and conditions of appointment of the Director-General shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Staff Regulations subject, however, to the provisions of the contract to be signed by the Chairperson of the Conference on behalf of the Organization and by the Director-General elect, in accordance with Rule XXXVII, paragraph 4.

(Adopted on __ July 2023)

D. Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

22. The General Committee noted the Conditions of Appointment for the Independent Chairperson of the Council,² **recommends** that the Finance Committee undertake a review of such conditions, and **recommends** that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution .../2023

Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

THE CONFERENCE,

Taking into account Rule XXIII of the General Rules of the Organization regarding the Independent Chairperson of the Council and Resolution 9/2009 regarding the Independent Chairperson of the Council³;

² FC 138/24; CL 141 REP para. 16

³ Basic Texts, Volume II, Section E

Having regard to the need to safeguard the independence and accountability of the role of the Independent Chairperson of the Council:

1. **Declares** that _____ is appointed Independent Chairperson of the Council until the Forty-fourth Session of the Conference (June 2025);
2. **Decides** that the conditions of appointment attached to the office of the Independent Chairperson of the Council will be as follows:
 - a) The Chairperson is required to be present in Rome for all sessions of the Council, the Conference, the Finance Committee and the Programme Committee and will normally be expected to spend at least six to eight months of the year in Rome;
 - b) An annual allowance equivalent to USD 23 831 will be paid to the Chairperson;
 - c) A *per diem* allowance equivalent to the applicable standard daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rate at 140 percent will be paid to the Chairperson while in Rome and/or when travelling in the performance of his functions;
 - d) The travel expenses of the Chairperson will be covered by the Organization when he travels in the performance of his functions;
 - e) In the performance of his functions, whether in Rome or while travelling, the Chairperson will be enrolled as a participant in the Basic Medical Insurance Plan (BMIP) and that the cost for such medical insurance coverage will be borne by the Organization for a total amount of USD 3,336.48 per annum;
 - f) Secretariat services will be made available to the Chairperson to assist him in the performance of his functions;
 - g) Interpretation services will be made available to the Chairperson, at his request, depending on the availability of resources;
 - h) Office space, equipment and supplies required by the Chairperson in the performance of his functions will be made available to him;
 - i) Assistance will be provided to the Chairperson in carrying out the necessary administrative formalities for the acquisition of the documents required for his stay in Rome and for his travels in the performance of his functions.
3. **Decides** that the implementation modalities of this Resolution will be agreed between the Chairperson and FAO.

(Adopted on __ July 2023)

Appendix A

FAO Member Nations by Region for Council election purposes

I. AFRICA

(Member Nations: 49 – Council seats: 12)

Algeria	Eswatini	Namibia
Angola	Ethiopia	Niger
Benin	Gabon	Nigeria
Botswana	Gambia	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Sao Tome and Principe
Burundi	Guinea	Senegal
Cabo Verde	Guinea-Bissau	Seychelles
Cameroon	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Central African Republic	Lesotho	South Africa
Chad	Liberia	South Sudan
Comoros	Madagascar	Togo
Congo	Malawi	Tunisia
Côte D'Ivoire	Mali	Uganda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritania	United Republic of Tanzania
Equatorial Guinea	Mauritius	Zambia
Eritrea	Morocco	Zimbabwe
	Mozambique	

II. ASIA

(Member Nations: 25 – Council seats: 9)

Bangladesh	Japan	Pakistan
Bhutan	Kazakhstan	Philippines
Brunei Darussalam	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Republic of Korea
Cambodia	Malaysia	Singapore
China	Maldives	Sri Lanka
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mongolia	Thailand
India	Myanmar	Timor-Leste
Indonesia	Nepal	Uzbekistan
		Viet Nam

III. EUROPE

(Member Nations: 48 – Council seats: 10)

Albania	Georgia	Portugal
Andorra	Germany	Republic of Moldova
Armenia	Greece	Romania
Austria	Hungary	Russian Federation
Azerbaijan	Iceland	San Marino
Belarus	Ireland	Serbia
Belgium	Israel	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Latvia	Spain
Croatia	Lithuania	Sweden
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Czechia	Malta	North Macedonia
Denmark	Monaco	Türkiye
Estonia	Montenegro	Ukraine
	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	United Kingdom

Finland
France

Norway
Poland

Member Organization: European Union

Associate Member: Faroe Islands

IV. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

(Member Nations: 33 – Council seats: 9)

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominican Republic	Paraguay
Argentina	Ecuador	Peru
Bahamas	El Salvador	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Barbados	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Belize	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Guyana	Suriname
Brazil	Haiti	Trinidad And Tobago
Chile	Honduras	Uruguay
Colombia	Jamaica	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Costa Rica	Mexico	
Cuba	Nicaragua	
Dominica	Panama	

V. NEAR EAST

(Member Nations: 21 – Council seats: 6)

Afghanistan	Kuwait	Somalia
Bahrain	Kyrgyzstan	Sudan
Djibouti	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic
Egypt	Libya	Tajikistan
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Oman	Turkmenistan
Iraq	Qatar	United Arab Emirates
Jordan	Saudi Arabia	Yemen

VI. NORTH AMERICA

(Member Nations: 2 – Council seats: 2)

Canada
United States of America

VII. SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

(Member Nations: 16 – Council seats: 1)

Australia	Nauru	Samoa
Cook Islands	New Zealand	Solomon Islands
Fiji	Niue	Tonga
Kiribati	Palau	Tuvalu
Marshall Islands	Papua New Guinea	Vanuatu
Micronesia (Federated States of)		

Associate Member: Tokelau